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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 003796

SIPDIS

MOSCOW FOR U/S BOLTON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/01/2012

TAGS: [PREL](#) [IT](#) [KICC](#)

SUBJECT: ICC: ITALY'S ENCOURAGING POSITION ON ARTICLE 98 AGREEMENT

REF: A. ROME 3580 B. ROME 3703 C. ROME 3760

CLASSIFIED BY: ACTING DCM THOMAS COUNTRYMAN FOR REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D)

11. (C) ON AUG 1, THE AMBASSADOR AND ADCM MET WITH AMBASSADOR GIOVANNI CASTELLANETA, THE DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR TO PM AND ACTING FM BERLUSCONI, TO

12. (C) CASTELLANETA REPLIED THAT THE GOI PREFERENCES TO WAIT UNTIL THE EU REACHES A CONSENSUS ON ARTICLE 98 AGREEMENTS. IN ANY CASE, THE GOI WOULD

13. (C) COMMENT: THIS IS THE MOST POSITIVE RESPONSE EMBASSY HAS YET RECEIVED ON THE ISSUE OF AN ARTICLE 98 AGREEMENT WITH THE GOI (SEE REFTELS)

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 004031

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/09/2012

TAGS: [PREL](#) [IT](#) [KICC](#)

SUBJECT: GOOD ADVICE ON ARTICLE 98 AGREEMENTS FROM ITALY

REF: A. ROME 3855 AND PREVIOUS B. STATE 150277 C. STATE 146035 D. ROME 3984

CLASSIFIED BY: A/DCM THOMAS COUNTRYMAN, REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D).

11. (C) SUMMARY: MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR GIANCARLO ARAGONA URGED THE U.S. TO EXPLAIN THE EFFORT TO NEGOTIATE ARTICLE 98 AGREEMENTS UNDER THE INT

12. (C) A/DCM TOOK ADVANTAGE OF AN AUGUST 8 MEETING ON HOW BEST TO FOCUS ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN (SEPTEL) TO DOUBLE-TRACK WITH POLITICAL DIRE

13. (C) THE BULK OF THE CONVERSATION WAS DEVOTED TO CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE 98 AGREEMENTS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT "RC

14. (C) ARAGONA DESCRIBED THE MOOD IN THE EU AS "TOUGH" AGAINST THE U.S. POSITION. THE EU PRESIDENCY AND SEVERAL STATES WERE LEADING THE CHARGE

15. (C) ARAGONA CONTINUED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE REMARKS OF A GOVERNMENT SPOKESPERSON WERE INTENDED FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION. BUT THE U.S. APPF

16. (C) A/DCM THANKED ARAGONA FOR THE USEFUL INFORMATION AND HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS. HE CONTINUED THAT THE ROME TREATY WAS AN ACHIEVEMENT OF WHICH

17. (C) COMMENT: ARAGONA'S VIEWS WERE HONEST AND DIRECT EXPRESSIONS OF BOTH THE CONSTRAINTS ITALY FACES AND ITS WILLINGNESS TO BE OUR PARTNER I

18. (C) COMMENT, CONT. ARAGONA'S SUGGESTIONS FOR HONING OUR PUBLIC APPROACH AS WE SEEK ARTICLE 98 AGREEMENTS ARE GOOD ADVICE, IN THE EUROPEAN C

19. (C) CONCLUSION: EMBASSY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S EXTRA EFFORT TO MAKE AVAILABLE (INCLUDING ON INTRANET) INFORMATION AND TALKING POINTS ON ART

SKODON